ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

APEX - A Single System

FROM: Director of Security 4E60 Hqs		EXTENSION	NO.
			DATE 2 4 SEP 1980

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. DD/PSI	Sen 9/29			Please note that the attached proposed memorandum reiterates [ ] the recent change in procedures in PSI relative to transferability of SCI approvals. I am forwarding this to request that you double check to make sure that these procedures are understood and are consistently being implemented by appropriate Clearance Division personnel.
2. C/CD	9/29	9/30		
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FORM 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS
1–79

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

STAT FROM:

Special Assistant to the DCI for Compartmentation

STAT

Director of Security

SUBJECT: APEX - A Single System

1. As has been previously reported, some difficulties have surfaced in implementing that part of the APEX concept that calls for the several government agencies to deal in a uniform way with industrial contractors. This memorandum is a report of progress in examining this potential problem.

2. There is some doubt among the contractors about the Government's ability to act in a concerted manner in some rather peripheral areas that give them a basis for complaint. Among the issues we have identified are:

    a. A multiplicity of forms, each slightly different and each serving a different agency's perception of needs in connection with, for example, personal history, fingerprint cards, and authorization for release of financial employment, academic and police records.

    b. Variations in procedural matters concerning requirements for background investigations, adjudications of trustworthiness and loyalty, and the way this information is obtained, including the polygraph.

    c. Variations in physical security requirements.

3. There are other issues which contractors see as making life easier for them. Among such issues are:

    a. A desire to have just one survey by a government agency each year, no matter how many agencies share the APEX control facility.

    b. Advocacy of ready transferability of cleared persons working on one Agency's SCI contract to another.

c. A streamlining of clearance procedures and a shortening of the processing time.

d. A desire for a one-time nondisclosure agreement.

e. A general reduction in security oversight by government agencies.

4. The Security Committee is addressing these problems. Updated physical security standards have been issued. The SECOM Staff is coordinating Community-wide analyses of investigative requirements valid in today's environment for making reliable determinations about loyalty and trustworthiness. Also under active study are methods of collecting necessary investigative information, adjudicating it and providing for appeal procedures when an individual is denied SCI access. The SECOM Staff is also reviewing the varied forms that have evolved over the years and is well along in culling out duplications and unnecessary requests for information.

5. Nevertheless, significant concerns remain within the security components of the Community, including CIA, about some of these issues. Principal among these are the concerns that uniformity is viewed as meaning an eventual acceptance of least-common-denominator security standards, loss of a degree of control over activities for which a given agency has security cognizance and accountability, and limitations on flexibility to make sensible and practical on-the-spot decisions where deviations from the norm are required. The least-common-denominator issue is of particular concern to this Agency, which has investigative criteria, including the polygraph, that have been lauded by the Congress. On the other hand, other agencies are wary of the as yet unquantified but suspected tremendous resource implications inherent in any upgrading of the Community's investigative capabilities.

6. These issues are being addressed in the context of an orderly development and implementation of APEX and we are confident that these difficulties will be overcome without detriment to the security of any SCI programs.

ST

SUBJECT: APEX - A Single System

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